



#00017 - I - XII - MMXX

Intro

We're back! -A zine's story

So, yeah. That took a while didn't it? This issue of **1324** was planned for release on the first of december. I could've 'falsified history' and kept it silent this issue didn't really went out on the 1st, but that would've been silly. Truth is I've just been incredibly busy with work and other projects and something had to be dropped. Despite the delay (or perhaps: because of) this issue still has plenty of interesting topics. There's a report about on a British store in the Netherlands, a book about London, a selection of mints and a topical set of trivia. Sorry for the wait, but please enjoy reading this new issue of **1324**!

Ivenne Mecking,
Editor **1324 - Out Of Order**

Weather

Rain allround. Sorry.



Ross-on-Wye

UK

6° C / 42 °F



Peterborough

UK

5 °C / 41 °F



Carlisle

UK

4 °C / 39 °F

Out Now

Don't bother, currently out of order:



If there's something weird and it don't look good. Who you gonna call? Nobody, I think that rather obvious. Spotted in Kingston upon Thames by [Maureen Barlin](#). Spotted something *Out Of Order* yourself? Please send it to [this address](#).

Go Dutch

In one word a week

'Geschiedvervalsing' (noun)
pronounce: guh-sheet-fur-fall-sing

This word translates to 'falsification of history'



In a sentence

Het is geschiedvervalsing om die twee zaken, de Nederlandse rijkdom en de manier waarop die is verkregen, los van elkaar proberen te trekken.

It is falsification of history to try to separate these two issues: the wealth in the Netherlands and the way it was obtained.

Also...

Geschiedvervalsing is also known as *pseudogeschiedenis* (pseudo history).

Little known facts

Crumpets

are a English culinary invention. They are small, high, round buns that are made from a yeast batter. English crumpets are generally circular, roughly 8 centimetres (3") in diameter and 2 centimetres (3/4") thick. Their shape comes from being restrained in the pan/griddle by a shallow ring. They have a characteristic flat top with many small pores and a spongy texture which allows the butter or other spread to permeate it. They are usually eaten with a spread of butter, or with other sweet or savoury toppings. Crumpets have been variously described as originating in Wales or as part of the Anglo-Saxon diet, based on proposed etymologies of the word. These days, crumpets are still mass produced by commercial bakeries, although sales have declined somewhat. In 2017 manufacturer *Warburtons* introduced Giant crumpets (almost twice the size of standard crumpets), which proved quite popular.

Trivia

Plenty of questions. Can you come up with the answers?

- [01] In what part of the UK could you find *Carew Castle*?
- [02] Is the *Isle of Man* part of the UK?
- [03] Which sport is the *Isle of Man* most famous for?
- [04] What the French name for the UK? *États-Unis* or *Royaume-Uni*?
- [05] When did the UK join the *EC* (later: EU), 1964 or 1973?
- [06] Where does *Walkers* (the crisp company) have their head office?
- [07] Was *Kylie Minogue* born in the UK?
- [08] What was *Spice Girls* *Geri Halliwell*'s nickname?
- [09] What's the most common colour of London taxi cabs?
- [10] What does the Scottish word 'wee' mean?
- [11] What would be a good way to get from *IJmuiden* to *Newcastle*?
- [12] What are the most common (M&F) names in England?
- [13] What (circulating) pound sterling (£) coin is the largest in size?
- [14] What type of animal regularly lives at *10 Downing street*?
- [15] What part (country) of the UK has the most rain?

Answers on page four.

From Britain with Love

We visited Hartleys, an 'English Shop' in The Netherlands



Earlier this month, when The Netherlands wasn't in total lockdown yet (d'oh! -ed) I visited Hartleys, 'The English Shop' in Arnhem, a city roughly 20KM (13 miles) from where I live. The shop opened many, many years ago, but somehow I never went in. About time, then. I was very interested to find out what exactly they were selling. As a big fan of foreign treats, the first section of the shop I investigated were the shelves filled with chocolate bars and crisps. The amount of different products was somewhat disappointing, especially since there was plenty of space left on the shelves. It wasn't a big surprise to see many Cadbury chocolate bars (*Dairy milk*, *Dairy milk wholenut*, *Dairy Milk Fruit & Nut chopped*, *Boost*, *Wispa*, *Double Decker*, *Curly Wurly*, *Freddo*..etc. etc.). Good, but not that exotic. Neither were the *Aero* and *Galaxy* bars.



The, somewhat disappointing, treats section.

What else? I was kind of *surprised* by the appearance of *Nerds* (weren't those from the USA?) and *disappointed* by the selection of crisps. The latter pretty much only consisted of *Walkers* crisps. No *Space Raiders*, *Monster Munch* or *Bobby's* snacks to be found. I kind of regret not trying the *marmite* variety of the *Walkers* crisps, though. Time time check out the next aisle...

A wonderful day for pie?

Christmas came early as the next aisle was completely filled with Christmas crackers (sold in luxury boxes by the likes of *Harvey & Mason*, *YöL* and others), luxury napkins...and pies. So. many. pies. Ranging from the 'Spiced orange and cranberry' mince pies from *Walkers* to the *Just chicken*, *Minced beef & Onion* and *Steak & Gravy* *Fray Bentos* tins.



Pies! (and Christmas Crackers)

Limp biscuits

Nah, but the selection was, dare I say it, still rather disappointing. Yes, the 'classics' were there (the *Hobnobs*, *Digestives* and I might have even spotted some *Rich Tea* biscuits), but I expected more. Hm. The *Amarettini* were another miss (from Italy surely?), so it's good I was able to jot down the presence of chocolate oranges. From the biscuits to the crackers (the edible ones, this time around). A healthy selection with the obligatory *Jacob's Baked Cheddars*, *Cream Crackers* and oatcakes. Time to head over to the next aisle, but not before mentioning the tins of stew, meatballs, haggis(!), jars of marmalade and passion fruit/lemon curd, which are, apart from the latter not my cup tea. Now about that...

What did you have for tea Denise?

There was no way I could forget to mention the **HUGE** selection of tea being sold at Hartley's. Apart from all the boxes of well-known brands (*Twinings*, *PG tips*, *Yorkshire tea*/*Bettys & Taylors*, *Tetley*), *Hartley's* sold their own blends. You were spoilt for choice really, because there were dozens of different ones, ranging from sweet to bitter. Everything you needed to 'brew a nice cuppa' was there too: infusers, pots and even (some rather posh) spoons. I could tell you about all the other non-food products but then I'd just be listing things like candles, aprons, books, quilts, photo frames, oven gloves, plastic flowers, picnic hampers, postcards and...wait a minute, never mind!



Tea, tea and more tea.

Top seller

I was interested to hear from the shop owners what their best selling products were, so I casually brought it up. The answer was simple 'Tea, tea and more tea'. No surprises there. Another top seller was more surprising: the jars of *Bisto*, granules for making gravy. I must have pulled a puzzled face because before I knew it the man behind the till told me all about how he made a very tasteful casserole with it. He also told me the product was mostly sold to British expats and students, who probably missed the taste.

I loved visiting Hartley's and it's likely I'll return in the future to try some more treats. I might even buy a jar of *Bisto*... If you're ever in Arnhem you can find Hartley's at the *Arke Noachstraat 6*.



Many, many scented candles can be found in the back of the shop. Lovely.

Mint or Meh

A selection of British mints ranked

We never leave the house without a roll or box of mints. They're a good solution for a dry mouth and you don't want anyone smelling coffee or booze in your breath do you? People with hypoglycemia might also find benefit in them (the non sugar-free ones, that is). A small selection of mints we found at *Hartleys*, ranked.



Polo (Original)

One of the most popular mints in the UK. I always bought a roll whenever I was visiting. I didn't remember them being quite so strong, but they were crunchy and overall quite pleasant.

Verdict: Mint!



Extra Mints

Extra? Extra what? 16 rather weirdly shaped pieces of sugarfree mints in a roll. Quite strong, but rather chewy and not so crunchy. A good 'sucker', but no good if you're a 'cruncher'.

Verdict: Meh



Murray Mints

These yellow mints are individually wrapped. They taste like a slightly weaker version of Werther's. Plenty of sugar, though. Tasty and crunchy, but not a mint really, are they? Hmm.

Verdict: Not a mint!

Halls Cherry Flavour

Cherry eh? Should be good, right? Wrong. These sugarfree mints (which look like boiled sweets) have a pleasant enough cherry taste, but it doesn't take long for the menthol to kick in. Why?! It's a strange combination which really doesn't work.

Verdict: Meh



After Eight

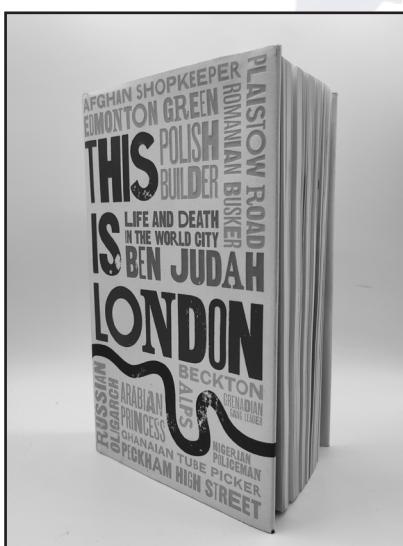
Yes, we're stretching the rules here a little. These aren't breath mints, but chocolate cubes with mint inside. Hated by many, but we loved them and not just 'after eight'.

Verdict: Mint!



Book review: This is London

'Life and Death in the World city' by Ben Judah



When I was browsing the (rather small) English section of a local second hand shop I came across this book. It was in very good nick, about one of my favorite cities and just €2 so home with me it went. Ben Judah, an acclaimed foreign correspondent, immersed himself in the hidden world's of London immigrants to reveal the city in the eyes of its beggars, bankers, coppers and gangsters. The first thing you should know about it is: this is *not* a happy book. It takes just ten pages (of the 420 in total) for the harsh reality to kick in: there's more misery in this city, than you might think. Ben joins homeless Roma who sleep in a tunnel near Hyde Park corner.

Armed with his notebook Ben jots down everything he hears and sees and manages to give you pretty idea of reality. He talks to a policeman from Peckham, a Polish store owner from Neasden, a gambling addict from Harlesden Road and even prostitutes from Ilford Lane. As you might have guessed by now, *This is London* is not a happy book. It often tells the stories of people who came to London with high expectations, to start a new and better life. Most of them quickly faced the harsh reality of a city with a lack of suitable jobs, high rents and very little chances for them to built a better life.

[continued on page 4]

FREE: Games

Game Over? Never.

There never seems to be a lack of free games. It's rumoured the Epic Games Store is giving away a whopping fifteen of during the holidays, including *Cities: Skylines*, *Tropico 5*, *Alien: Isolation* and *The Long Dark*.

The PS Plus games for January have also been unveiled and they include *Hitman 2* and *Spyro Reignited Trilogy*.

Finally, *Chop Chop Princess*, a 'Hand-crafted cartoon violence endless runner about princess adventures in Zephyr Kingdom' would cost you about 7 euro on Steam but is temporarily free on Indiegala.

Happy gaming!



Chop Chop Princess in action

Quality Quote

Words to go by

'England is the paradise of individuality, eccentricity, heresy, anomalies, hobbies and humors.'

-George Santayana

1324 Online

Website address

You can find us at: www.1324.online

The official site is frequently updated with the download links to each and every issue as well as an overview of all the included topics. Take a look and download a few why don't you...

This is London

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One of the most interesting examples is the story of *Femi*, a man who originally came from Nigeria to London on a temporary student visa. He hoped to find office work, but six months later had little choice to accept a job as a temporary carer for the NHS at an old people's home. It's a job in which he has to deal with dying, confused people often throwing racist abuse at him, the uncertainties of a zero-hour contact and permanent workers who consider him a threat, undercutting their trade unions, their employment and their pay. The picture of Femi included in the book pretty much says it all: this is not what he hoped for when he went to London.

Even the wealthy immigrants Ben talks to are far from happy. One of them is *Nahla*, the daughter of a very wealthy Arab and lives in Mayfair. When she's not at the international school, she spends her days bored out of her mind, because she's more or less locked up by her parents. She also tells a story about one of her friends who is basically in the same situation and spends her days smoking weed, ordering *McDonalds* and taking 'happy pills'. You could say it's evidence that money can't buy happiness.

Overall, the stories told by Ben are pretty depressing yet very interesting. There's one thing that *This is London* from being a true classic and that's Ben writing style. Some might like it, but I got very fed up with all the adjectives. On one page I counted about fifteen of them and those were just the colours. The *blue plastic rimming, odd white smears, yellowish lights, reddish skin, blue umbrellas, orange-covered doors, beige quartz tilling, white-lined sportswear and a green raincoat*: all on just one page. It grates. Another thing I'm not so sure about is the inclusion of photographs of many of these people. I reckon it strips many of them of their dignity and they serve little use.

All in all, if you can get past the ridiculous amount of adjectives and the bleak nature of the stories told, *This is London* is a book worth reading, if only to understand the city of London just a little better.

Trivia: The Answers

Plenty of answers. Can you come up with the questions?

- [01] Wales
- [02] Nope
- [03] Motorsport (TT races)
- [04] It's called *Royaume-Uni*. *États-unis* is their name for the USA.
- [05] 1973
- [06] Leicester
- [07] No, she was born in Australia. Her mother hails from Wales, though.
- [08] Ginger Spice
- [09] Black
- [10] Small in size
- [11] Your best bet is to take the ferry.
- [12] The top names over the last 100 years are *James* and *Mary*.
- [13] The 2 pound coin is slightly larger than the 50p one.
- [14] A cat.
- [15] Scotland. England has the least.

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